

Congressman Alcee L. Hastings made the following [statement](#) on the House floor on May 4, 2011, honoring the life of William "Bill" Munsey:

M. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of William "Bill" Munsey of Pompano Beach, Florida, who passed away on April 3, 2011 at age 86 after a valiant struggle against cancer. Bill had a long and celebrated career in athletics. As a young man at Fleming High School in Roanoke, Virginia, he played football, basketball, tennis and ran track. In 1942, Bill enrolled at Roanoke College on an athletic scholarship. Following football season, he entered the U.S. Navy as a member of the Amphibious Forces and served as a "frogman" in both the Atlantic and Pacific commands. After his military service, Bill returned to Roanoke College, where he played basketball.

Bill and his wife, Jane, moved to Florida in 1949, where he began teaching and coaching at Riverside Military Academy in Hollywood. During that time, he attended the University of Miami, graduating in 1950 with a degree in Physical Education. He loved Miami football and was always proud to be a "Hurricane."

Bill Munsey began his career in high school coaching in 1954 at Pine Crest School, where he was known as the "cornerstone" of the athletic program. He coached Pine Crest's first football team and served as its first Athletic Director. He built a legendary and very successful career, serving as coach and Athletic Director for 38 years. As head of the football program, Coach Munsey led his teams to nine conference titles, eight district titles and four regional titles. His football teams won 61 of 63 games during the 1987 to 1993 seasons. He compiled a career record of 216-92-2 that included four undefeated seasons.

Bill Munsey loved all sports, and during his 38 years at Pine Crest, he also coached basketball, baseball, golf and track. His excellence as a coach was recognized with numerous awards. He was voted Broward County Football Coach of the Year six times and won the 1988 Football Coach Gold Award, a scholastic award. Besides the prominence of his football teams, his basketball teams won four district titles and a trip to the state Final Four in 1961.

During his career, Coach Munsey was inducted into the Florida Coaches Association Hall of Fame, the FHSAA Hall of Fame and Pine Crest's own Athletic Hall of Fame. He was inducted into the Broward County Sports Hall of Fame and was named Athletic Director of the Year.

Coach Munsey was also a football and basketball official and actually held the first Broward County officials' meetings in his home. Bill Munsey was known to say that he never recruited a player from another school and that a Pine Crest student-athlete had to be both smart and a good athlete to play for him.

M. Speaker, Bill Munsey's absence will be felt by the many players he coached, the people he coached with and against and all who knew and admired him for the honest, dedicated sports professional that he was. I am pleased to honor his memory.

- [ARCHIVED HEROES](#)